

U.S. Department of Labor



A proud member of
America's Workforce Network

Employment and Training Administration REGION V - The Great Heartland

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Integrating Systems for Family Self-Sufficiency Conference Chicago, Illinois February 5-6, 2002

Summary of Recommendations for Federal Action

FUNDING

- Maintain funding levels at or above current funding levels for TANF and WIA – IA, KA, MI, MO, WI. *WIA and TANF issue*
- Eliminate federal funding silos – MI. *WIA and TANF issue*
- Increase funding for Food Stamps supportive services – MI. *Food Stamps issue*
- Trust the states to allocate and reallocate funds where needed – KA, IN. *WtW issue*

PERFORMANCE GOALS

- Identify common, outcome-based performance measures across workforce investment programs (e.g., currently TANF measures participation rates while WIA measures employment outcomes) – IA, MO, WI. *WIA, TANF and Food Stamps issue*
- Make TANF reporting requirements less difficult – MN. *TANF issue*
- Make record keeping easier – IL. *WIA, TANF and WtW issue*
- Give credit for outcomes to all funding streams that help make them happen – OH. *WIA, TANF and WtW issue*
- Allow state pilots to develop common system goals – IA. *WIA, TANF and Food Stamps issue*

COLLABORATION

- Establish a federal mandate for collaboration between the welfare and workforce investment systems – MN. *WIA, TANF and Food Stamps issue*
- Make TANF a mandatory one-stop partner – WI. *WIA and TANF issue*
- Mandate partner funding for one-stops – MO. *WIA, TANF and Education issue*
- Improve TANF and Child Support Representation on local boards – IA. *WIA and TANF issue*



- Improve partnerships among federal agencies (“Walk the talk.”) – MI, MO, OH.
All agency issue

COMMON DEFINITIONS

- Improve coordination at federal level among HHS, DOL, FNS, HUD, DOT, and Education to develop complementary eligibility rules and definitions across programs – IA, IL, MI, OH. *WIA, TANF, WtW, Food Stamps, HUD, DOT and Education issue*
- Allow state pilots to develop common definitions – IA.
WIA, TANF, WtW and Food Stamps issue

ELIGIBILITY

- Make non-custodial parent eligibility under WtW dependent on income, not the status of the child – IL.
WtW issue

CONFIDENTIALITY

- Clearly define confidentiality requirements and what is shareable – IL, MI.
WIA, TANF, WtW and Food Stamps issue

ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES

- Broaden the TANF definition of allowable work activities (e.g., to include substance abuse treatment, job readiness counseling) – MI, MO. *TANF issue*
- Stop the TANF clock for employment – IL. *TANF issue*
- Make job search time allowances under TANF less restrictive – MI, MO. *TANF issue*
- Relax WIA’s intensive services requirements – IL. *WIA issue*
- Allow greater flexibility in the use of Wagner-Peyser funds – OH. *Wagner-Peyser issue*
- Emphasize retention, follow-up – WI, OH. *WIA, TANF and WtW issue*
- Allow child support arrearages to be forgiven to encourage non-custodial parent participation in employment programs – MI. *TANF issue*
- Maintain or increase state/local flexibility in the use of the funds – IA, WI.
WIA, TANF, WtW and Food Stamps issue

PURPOSE

- Shift TANF focus to poverty reduction and family stability – MI. *TANF issue*

EMPLOYER ROLE

- Give federal encouragement for employers to get involved and take a leadership role – MI.
WIA issue